

## IN THE CLAIMS

The text of all pending claims, (including withdrawn claims) is set forth below. Cancelled and not entered claims are indicated with claim number and status only. The claims as listed below show added text with underlining and deleted text with ~~strikethrough~~. The status of each claim is indicated with one of (original), (currently amended), (cancelled), (withdrawn), (new), (previously presented), or (not entered).

Please **AMEND** claims 2-5 and 7-11 in accordance with the following.

Please **CANCEL** claims 1 and 6.

1. (CANCELLED)

2. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) ~~The~~A distributed computer system, comprising:  
a plurality of client computers in which is stored a file group including files managed in  
each resource group under a directory constituted by a plurality of layers; and  
a server computer that transfers to each of the client computers maintenance data for  
updating files managed in each of said resource groups;  
wherein said client computers comprise:  
an application section that, when said maintenance data is transferred from said server  
computer, detects identification information that identifies said resource group contained in said  
maintenance data that was transferred from said directory, of claim 1, wherein said application  
section searches for the layer, of said directories, a layer of said directory layers that has said  
identification information, and generates the maintenance target directory for applying said  
maintenance data by adding a second directory portion, which was registered beforehand, under  
the first directory portion from the topmost layer of said directories as far as the level having  
the identification information contained in said maintenance data which was transferred, and  
applies said maintenance data which was transferred to this the maintenance target directory,  
and  
a monitoring and notification section that monitors to ascertain whether a plurality of  
items of identical identification information are present in said directories and, if a plurality of  
items of identical identification information are present, notifies said server computer of  
abnormality.

3. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The distributed computer system according to ~~claim~~ claim 2, wherein said maintenance data comprises application destination directory information whereby said maintenance data that was registered beforehand is applied; and

said application section, when said application destination directory is detected from said directory, applies said maintenance data to said application destination directory.

4. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The distributed computer system according to ~~claim~~ claim 2, further comprising a management computer that manages the maintenance data that was generated,

wherein said management computer comprises:

previous update date information for each said resource group of said group of files,

an extraction section that extracts, of said generated maintenance data, maintenance data having an update date more recent than said previous update date; and

a transfer section that transfers this extracted maintenance data to said server computer.

5. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The distributed computer system according to ~~claim~~ claim 2, wherein said application section reads a maintenance protection information file comprising name information of said client computer from said file group and, if the name of the client computer of the maintenance protection information file that has thus been read is its own name, applies to said maintenance target directory said maintenance data that has been transferred.

6. (CANCELLED)

7. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) ~~The~~ A maintenance data application method according to claim 6, wherein, in said application step, in a distributed computer system comprising a plurality of client computers in which is stored a file group including files managed in each prescribed resource group under a directory constituted by a plurality of layers, and a server computer that transfers to each of the client computers maintenance data for updating files managed in each of said resource groups, said method comprising:

detecting identification information, that identifies said resource group, contained in said transferred maintenance data from said directory of said client computer, when said maintenance data has been transferred from said server computer;

searching for a layer of said directory layers that has said identification information;  
generating a maintenance target directory by adding a second directory portion that was  
registered beforehand ~~is added under the~~ a first directory portion from ~~the~~ a topmost layer of said  
directory as far as ~~the~~ a layer having the identification information included in said transferred  
maintenance data; ~~to generate a maintenance target directory for application of said~~  
~~maintenance data, and~~  
applying said transferred maintenance data ~~is applied to this~~ to the maintenance target  
directory;  
monitoring whether a plurality of identical items of identification information are present in  
said directories; and  
notifying said server computer of abnormality, if a plurality of identical items of  
identification information are present according to the monitoring.

8. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The maintenance data application method according to ~~claim 6~~ claim 7, wherein said maintenance data comprises application destination directory information as to where said maintenance data that has been registered beforehand is to be applied and

in said ~~detection step~~ detecting, when said application destination directory is detected from said directory, in said ~~application step~~ applying, said maintenance data is applied to said application destination directory.

9. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The maintenance data application method according to ~~claim 6~~ claim 7, wherein said distributed computer system comprises a management computer that manages the maintenance data that was generated and the previous update date information for each said resource group of said file group and the method further comprises  
extracting ~~comprising an extraction step wherein~~, of said generated maintenance data, maintenance data having an update date more recent than said previous update date is extracted, and a ~~transfer step in which this~~ transferring the extracted maintenance data is ~~transferred~~ to said server computer from said management computer.

10. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The maintenance data application method according to ~~claim 6~~claim 7, wherein, in said ~~application step~~applying, a maintenance protection information file having name information of said client computer is read from said file group, and, if the name of the client computer of the maintenance information file that was thus read is its own name, said transferred maintenance data is applied to said maintenance target directory.

11. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A recording medium for storing a program for executing a maintenance data application method in a distributed computer system comprising a plurality of client computers that store file groups containing files managed for each prescribed resource group under a directory constituted by a plurality of layers, and a server computer that transfers to the client computers maintenance data for updating files managed for each said resource group, said recording medium being characterized by storing a program for executing:

~~a step of detecting~~ identification information identifying said resource group contained in said transferred maintenance data from said directory of said client computer, when said maintenance data has been transferred from said server computer;

searching for a layer of said directory layers that has said identification information;

generating a maintenance target directory by adding a second directory portion that was registered beforehand under a first directory portion from a topmost layer of said directory as far as a layer having the identification information included in said transferred maintenance data,

~~an application step of applying said transferred maintenance data to a directory under this detected identification information~~the maintenance target directory;

~~a monitoring step that monitors~~monitoring whether or not a plurality of items of identical identification information are present in said ~~directory~~directories; and

~~a notification step that notifies~~notifying said server computer of abnormality if a plurality of identical items of identification information are present.